

UDC: 271.2-523.4(477-25) «19»

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INTEGRATION OF THE RESURRECTION CHURCH INTO THE ELECTRICAL GRID OF THE KYIV CAVES LAVRA (THE EARLY 20TH CENT

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ВКЛЮЧЕННЯ ВОСКРЕСЕНСЬКОЇ ЦЕРКВИ В ЕЛЕКТРОМЕРЕЖУ КИЄВО-ПЕЧЕРСЬКОЇ ЛАВРИ НА ПОЧАТКУ ХХ СТ.

In the early 20th cent., the Kyiv Dormition Caves Lavra was not only a sacred place important for every Orthodox Christian, but also a self-sufficient institution with its own agricultural lands, apiaries, hospitals, libraries, hotels and apartment buildings, fish ponds, springs, as well as a prosfora bakery, bread bakery, printing house and photo studio, sawmill, candle and brick factories, and a wide range of various workshops. In 1911, its own oil-fired power plant became an important part of the economic life of the various units of the monastery itself and Pechersk, including the Kyiv Fortress [3, p. 38]. From the perspective of the history of both electrification and social interactions around it, it is important to examine at the micro level how the Lavra expanded its power grid beyond the monastery walls.

The aim of the paper is to determine the specifics of including the Resurrection Church in Pechersk into the power grid of the Kyiv Caves Lavra.

On December 22, 1910, the head priest of the Resurrection Church, Petro Stelletsnyi, submitted a petition to the Spiritual Council of the Lavra to have electricity brought from the Lavra's power plant to his church quarters in the courtyard of the Resurrection Church for 30–40 lamps. He agreed to pay for this from his own and parish funds. He also proposed to pay at the rate set for the commandant and staff of the Kyiv Fortress [1, арк. 16 зв.]. On December 22, 1910, a resolution of the Spiritual Council was issued with the cost of electricity for the specified number of lamps (20 kopecks per kWh) [1, арк. 2]. On December 29, 1910, the Spiritual Council decided to instruct the responsible persons to check the possibility of the connection described in the petition [1, арк. 16 зв.]. On November 28, 1911, P. Stelletsnyi was given a response to his request from December 29, 1910. It stated that they agreed to connect 30–40 lamps at 20 kopecks per kWh, plus a fee for connecting to the Lavra's grid [1, арк. 3]. On February 8 (according to the protocol of the Spiritual Council, probably a misprint in it), 1912, the head of the Lavra's power plant, S. Adrianov, confirmed that this was possible, but at the customer's expense, and a meter also had to be installed under the Lavra's supervision [1, арк. 4; 2, арк. 118 зв. – 119]. On February 16, 1912, the Spiritual Council decided to notify P. Stelletsnyi about this, which was done on February 21 [1, арк. 4 зв., 5; 2, арк. 118 зв.].

On November 19, 1914, a petition from P. Stelletsnyi was received by the Spiritual Council, referring to the successful experience of connecting his house and mentioning a petition by the clergy and warden to the diocesan authority for permission to install electric lighting in the church itself at the church's expense: 3 church chandeliers (for 24, 12 and 6 candles) for 42 lamps and 10–12 lamps in other parts of the church, total 52–52 lamps. They asked the Lavra to do everything on the same terms as the clergy house with the priest's quarters. On November 24, 1914, the Spiritual Council decided to ask the head of the power plant if this was possible. On November 28, he confirmed that it was possible [1, арк. 14–14 зв.]. On December 2, 1914, the head of the power plant was allowed to organize the

respective works, and P. Stelletsnyi was notified about this [1, арк. 16–17].

On December 30, 1914, P. Stelletsnyi appealed to the Spiritual Council with a request to add 7–10 lamps on the previous terms for the quarters of the deacon of the Resurrection Church. On December 31, the Spiritual Council agreed [1, арк. 18–18 зв.]. P. Stelletsnyi and the head of the power plant were notified about this on January 9, 1915 [1, арк. 19–19 зв.].

However, on the same day, the head of the power plant prepared a report to the Spiritual Council, received on January 10, stating that it was undesirable to connect the deacon's quarters through the Resurrection Church's meter, because in case of a lighting malfunction in the quarters, the Lavra would not be able to turn it on or off without affecting the church's lighting, so the deacon's quarters had to be connected through a separate meter, separately from the Lavra's main line. On February 12, it was decided to notify P. Stelletsnyi about this. This was done on February 16 [1, арк. 20–21].

On July 12, 1916, the head priest of the Resurrection Church, Mykola Smyrnov, submitted a petition to the Spiritual Council. Since there was a need to replace the lighting in the church courtyard with electric lighting, he asked for permission to install 8 low-power lamps in the church courtyard (one each over the Holy and Economic gates, 4 on each side of the church, 1 in the courtyard building, 1 over the threshold of the priest's house), accordingly extending the external wiring, partially through the church meter, partially through the rector's meter [1, арк. 22]. After consulting with the head of the power plant, on July 20, 1916, the priest was notified that they were allowing this to be done at the customer's expense [1, арк. 22 зв. – 23]. It is noteworthy that at the time this permission was granted, the Lavra was already experiencing problems with oil supplies due to the unfolding fuel crisis caused by the events of World War I [3, p. 39].

In 1910–1914, the Resurrection Church in Pechersk was gradually connected to the power grid of the Kyiv Caves Lavra. Initially, the clergy house with the priest's quarters was connected to the power grid, and then the church itself and the deacon's house. The priests and clergy paid for the cost of connection and electricity at the rates set by the Lavra. When connecting the deacon's quarters, technical problems arose, which ultimately did not hinder the plans. The connection at all stages was coordinated with the Spiritual Council of the Lavra and the head of the Lavra's power plant, and at the stage of lighting the church, also at the diocesan level. In 1916, under a new rector, electric lighting was also installed in the courtyard of the Resurrection Church. The connection of the church to the Lavra's power grid took place against the backdrop of the overall electrification of the Lavra and adjacent territories, which was an important stage of modernization in Pechersk. Communication paid significant attention to the details of technical issues, the cost of work, and the commercial aspects of providing connection services to the power grid. While the Lavra's power grid itself was just emerging, there were long delays in decision-making. However, further interactions were more prompt.

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